

**ABSTRACT:**

A micro-machined actuator for use in, among other things, sensors and data storage devices. The actuator includes a stator wafer and a micro-mover positioned adjacent to the stator wafer. Between the stator wafer and the micro-mover are electrodes that are set to specified voltages and that emanate electric fields that position the micro-mover relative to the stator wafer. Also between stator wafer and the micro-mover are bumpers that prevent the electrodes from coming into contact with each other.

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